

SALUTE TO THE HIGHLAND PARK
MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 1999

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, I would like to offer my sincere congratulations to one of the outstanding high school basketball teams in Minnesota's Fourth Congressional district who have met the challenges of athletic competition. St. Paul's Highland Park Men's Basketball Team has claimed the high school championship title in Class AAA Division.

Much praise and honor is to be extended to these young men and their coaches for their hard work and success. This team has surmounted obstacles that many thought would prevent them from reaching this achievement. Highland Park is the first public school in St. Paul to win a state boys basketball championship in fifty years.

This type of healthy competition epitomized by the Minnesota High School League that helps young people throughout our state and nation develop the self confidence and teamwork skills as they focus their energies within an exciting sports program. Once again, I offer my congratulations and I wish them luck for their future basketball seasons.

Mr. Speaker I would like to submit an article by the Pioneer Press on the victorious Highland Park Men's Basketball Team.

[From the St. Paul Pioneer Press, Mar. 21, 1999]

ST. PAUL GETS RARE TITLE BY PUBLIC SCHOOL
(By Mike Fermoye)

Highland Park compensated for a disadvantage in size with speed, a tightly run offense and a relentless defense Saturday night.

The result was a 56-46 victory over Cold Spring Rocori in the Class AAA final at Williams Arena and with that came the first state boys basketball championship by a St. Paul public school in half a century.

Humboldt beat Mankato in 1949, the last St. Paul public school to win a title. Cretin-Derham Hall, the only private school in the St. Paul City Conference, won two Class AA titles under the old two-class format, in 1991 and 1993.

Highland Park (27-2) suffered its only losses in consecutive games, first to De La Salle in the final at the Fargo (N.D.) Shanley tournament, and then to Central in its St. Paul City opener.

"When that happened," Scots coach Charles Portis said Saturday, "I thought we were headed in the wrong direction."

Instead, his team won its last 20 games.

Terrance Stokes, a 5-foot-9 point guard, ran the offense (he had five assists), made major contributions on defense and scored 14 points for Highland.

Mark Wingo would up with 17 points, had nine rebounds, and the 6-5 senior forward concluded the festivities by taking a pass from Thomas Miley and dunking it in the final second.

Sophomore Maurice Hargrow added nine points for the Scots, and he, like Stokes, was a thorn in the side of the Rocori offense all night, making five steals.

"We knew they were big," Stokes said of the Spartans, "but that just meant we had to play great defense."

Which the Scots did.

Jason Kron of Rocori led all scorers with 21 points. But no other Spartan reached double figures.

"We just didn't get the ball inside to our big guys the way we normally do," Rocori coach Bob Brink said. "It was their defense. They just put so much pressure on the perimeter that they took us out of our offense."

The Scots made their first two shots, getting a layup from Wingo to open the scoring and a three pointer from Stokes on their second possession.

But it was 2½ minutes before they scored again.

Meanwhile, the Spartans were finding the range. Kron, a 6-6 forward, made a 15-foot jump shot to put his team on the board, and 6-8 center Mike VanNevel followed up with a 12-footer.

I spent all day worrying about their height," Portis said, "It's not just that they're tall, it's that they're big and versatile. They can all play away from the basket, and that makes them really tough to guard."

Kron's sophomore brother, Steve Kron, added a three-pointer with 4:50 remaining in the opening period to give the Spartans their first at 7-5.

It was 11-7 for Rocori when Josef Mathews reignited the Scots with a three-pointer. That came with 2:28 left.

Stokes swiped the inbounds pass and scored on a layup, and suddenly Highland had its nose in front again at 12-11.

The Highland scoring spree paused briefly, as 6-6 Jeff Donnay made one of two free throws for the Spartans.

But Miley's 15-footer from the left side of the key marked the beginning of a 7-0 run for the Scots that took just 45 seconds.

Hargrow scored the last five points in the run. Mathews made an steal and then sent Hargrow in for a layup, and Hargrow knocked down a three-point shot with 55 seconds left in the quarter, increasing the Highland lead to 19-12.

The Scots slowed things in the second quarter, trying to force Rocori to spread out its zone defense. However, it was Highland's man-to-man defense that dominated the period.

After the Spartans cut the deficit to 23-18 on two free throws by Ryan Mathre with 6:06 remaining in the half, the Scots held then to two points the rest of the period.

Highland wasn't lighting it up, but Stokes converted a steal into a layup with 4:55 left, and he added a three-pointer nearly three minutes later. Miley's basket with exactly one minute to go made it 20-20, and that's how the half ended.

Rocori chopped six points off the Scots' advantage while Highland went scoreless through the first 3:55 of the third period. Mathews made a three to end the Rocori run.

Hargrow set up Wingo for a spectacular alley-oop dunk that he turned into a three-point play with 2:48 left, but Wingo's next basket was the only other one for the Scots in the quarter, and they were clinging to a 38-35 lead.

Joshua Watson scored the first points of the final quarter for Highland. Stokes supplied a layup, then missed the subsequent free throw, but Miley got the rebound and put it back in to make it 44-35. It was one of seven rebounds for the 6-8 Miley.

"The stat sheet says we outrebounced them (28-24)," Brink said. "But it seemed like they got all the crucial rebounds."

Three-pointers by Jason Kron and Steve Kron cut the margin to 44-41, before Hargrow and Wingo collaborated on another Wingo layup and with just over three minutes remaining.

Two free throws by Wingo made it 48-41 with 1:32 left.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION
OF H.R. 975, REDUCING VOLUME
OF STEEL IMPORTS AND ESTAB-
LISHING STEEL IMPORT NOTIFI-
CATION AND MONITORING PRO-
GRAM

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB RILEY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 17, 1999

Mr. RILEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 975, the Steel Recovery Act. For almost two years now, the United States has seen a flood of illegal steel imports enter our markets from Asia, Russia and Brazil. In the meantime, more than 10,000 Americans have lost their jobs, including over 500 in Alabama.

These foreign nations are dumping their steel on our markets in direct violation of U.S. trade laws. Hard-working Americans are losing their jobs because foreign companies are breaking our laws. Numerous American steel companies have been forced into bankruptcy as a result of foreign countries sabotaging our markets and dumping their steel at below production costs. In my home state of Alabama, one company is in dire financial trouble, putting 1,906 jobs in jeopardy.

Current trade laws are too cumbersome and too slow in providing short term relief from illegal dumping. This legislation will help us return to the pre-crisis import levels of 1994-1997. Currently, Japan's steel imports into the United States are up 96% from its pre-crisis level. Moreover, Korea's imports are up 155% and Indonesia's are up 705%. If the current Administration will not act, Congress must!

I support H.R. 975 because it contains key provisions that will help stop this crisis. By levying tariff surcharges, setting quotas and establishing programs to ensure that U.S. anti-dumping trade laws are not being violated, we can once again return to pre-crisis levels and ensure a level playing field for our domestic steel industry.

I will not allow international interests to strong-arm our steel industry and hurt our economy. Neither should you! I urge you to join me today in supporting H.R. 975.

OPENING REMARKS OF GENE E.
BRADLEY, PRESIDENT AND CEO
OF JOURNEY IN FAITH AT THE
FIRST ANNUAL SUMMIT IN
WASHINGTON, MARCH 15, 1999

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 1999

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I submit for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the following remarks of Gene Bradley, President and CEO of Journey in Faith, delivered at the organization's First Annual Summit in Washington:

How fortunate we are to be here today—on Capitol Hill as guests of Congressman Ben Gilman and Tim Petri, Honorary Co-Chairs and Co-Hosts of Journey in Faith. How fortunate we are to be meeting in this magnificent International Relations Committee Room as we reason together: "How can we,

as partners, best contribute to the spiritual renewal of America in the New Millennium?"

I have been privileged to know Ben Gilman and Tim Petri over several enriching, fun, productive decades. I met both Ben and Tim while I was serving with IMDI, the International Management and Development Institute. Both were Congressional Members of IMDI, and Ben became an Honorary Member of our Board of Directors. Because Ben is our Honorary Host for today, I now want to say a few words about this dedicated American.

Throughout much of the cold war, Ben Gilman was on the cutting edge of U.S. policy which contributed so mightily to the defeat of the Soviet nuclear threat and aggressive world communism. He won worldwide acclaim as a human rights champion. He is noted for his relentless crusade against narcotics abuse and trafficking, co-founding the House Select Committee on Narcotics.

I have been with Ben as he briefed my institute's corporate, government, and diplomatic associates again and again—here in Washington and in most major capitols across Europe.

But the vision I hold most sharply in focus is when we went together on a mission of Jamaica at the height of the drug-trafficking crisis. Congressman Gilman—the key Member of Congress responsible for controlling narcotics—did not rely on just conferring with U.S. and Jamaican government officials. No. He needed, he requested, and he got a first-hand on-site view of what was going on. He knew that all was not going well. So in a helicopter, Ben Gilman flew 100 feet over acres and acres of marijuana crops. Yes, the drugs were there, and so was Ben.

As we began planning this First Washington Summit Meeting for Journey in Faith, I found great inspiration in these three passages from the Holy Scriptures (Matthew and Mark):

(1) Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid.

(2) * * * freely ye have received, freely give.

(3) Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

First Point: America is a light that cannot be hid. As Ben Gilman has stated so accurately and eloquently, America is perceived worldwide as a symbol of strength and integrity, a city set on a hill—a free society rooted in Judeo-Christian traditions of law, morality, and the intrinsic worth of every human being. We find confirmation of our spiritual heritage as we tour the Congress, the White House, Washington's spectacular monuments . . . as we examine our founding documents beginning with America's Declaration of Independence which solidly affirms—" . . . we hold these truths to be self evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights . . ."

From Jefferson: "The God who gave us life, gave us liberty at the same time." The official motto of the United States, "In God we trust," was legislated by Congress in July 1956. We are reminded of that motto, "In God we trust," by the inscription on the coins we carry in our pockets.

Second Point: Here in America, freely we have received; and most notably in this century, freely have we given in the cause of freedom to the world. Without America, could the Allies have defeated Nazi Germany in World War II? Without America, could our courageous Allies in NATO have compelled the collapse of the Berlin Wall and the Soviet Empire? We close out the 20th century with profound gratitude to God and to the heroic men and women whom Tom Brokaw has profiled in his book as "The Greatest Generation."

Third Point: Now America's mandate for the century just ahead is to go out into the

world and share with others the priceless heritage and blessings we have been privileged to enjoy. Journey in Faith is one element—just one initiative—in this vast panorama of opportunity. We are a new religious institute with focus on leadership and on the fulfillment of this mission:

The mission of Journey in Faith is to conduct leadership pilgrimages to the Bible Lands—where today's leaders and tomorrow's future leaders can walk in the footsteps of Jesus Christ, learn the leadership lessons He taught, deepen their faith, and experience spiritual renewal.

In my remarks I shall focus on three points: (1) Birth of the idea—Journey in Faith. (2) Where we are today in our second year—a status report, as we prepare to enter the next century. (3) Our vision for the decades ahead.

1. BIRTH OF THE IDEA

With us today is my partner in journalism, Wes Pippert—dedicated Christian, accomplished book author, senior correspondent for UPI here in Washington and the Middle East. Wes and I were deeply engaged in interviewing Christian leaders for the book we are co-authoring on Modern Miracles. Wes had served for three years in the Bible Lands. My Bible Lands mission was for just two weeks—but a two-week pilgrimage that deepened my faith and redirected my life. Wes and I asked ourselves: "What if the Christian leaders we are interviewing for our book—men and women of strong spiritual courage, could experience the priceless privilege each of us has known?"

Wes and I began exploring the idea with those we are profiling in our book beginning with General Ronald H. Griffith. We had interviewed the general for his remarkable experience during Desert Storm; his story appears in our article published in New Man Magazine entitled, "Miracle in the Desert." Ron's response to the idea was immediate and enthusiastic; Journey in Faith had his full support. And this support, more than any other single factor, helped to launch our mission. Ron became co-chairman for the Pilot Pilgrimage in January of last year. He is co-chairman for this two-day Summit today and tomorrow. And he is chairman of the new non-profit religious-educational institute we have founded.

Next, we met with our friend, Scott Scherer, President of Trinity World Tours, who has become Mission Director for Journey in Faith. Scott contributed a service none of us could have anticipated: He was able to obtain free airline passage and free hotel arrangements for the 36 leaders who would become members of our Pilot Team.

2. WHERE WE ARE TODAY

Journey in Faith finds itself where we are today because of the foundations laid through our unforgettable 7-day pilgrimage one year ago. In that Pilot Pilgrimage we followed the journey pioneered by Jesus Christ 2,000 years ago—across the Sea of Galilee where we sailed through a storm, where Christ had walked across the raging waters—the Mount of Beatitudes, the field where Jesus fed the 5,000, the desert and the pinnacle where He rebuked and vanquished the devil—the sites of His miracles where He healed the sick, cleansed the lepers, comforted those who mourn, raised the dead—the site of the Last Supper—the last 24 hours—the trial, the crucifixion, the Garden Tomb and the miracle of Christ's resurrection. All of us were deeply moved. What did that seven-day pilgrimage mean to us? To quote just three of our pilot-team members:

(1) West Point Chaplain (Major) John Cook: "I've been a Christian for 32 years and a minister for almost 13 years, yet my Journey-in-Faith to Israel has been a life-changing experience * * *

(2) Clyde King, Brooklyn Dodgers Hall of Fame: "I was transformed." (3) Rome Hartman, Producer, CBS/60 Minutes: "Walking in His footsteps and seeing the land He saw was plenty powerful, but to also hear His Word taught at every stop along the way is life-changing."

We had a marvelous team—including 4 from the ministry—4 military (three- and four-star generals)—education, the professions—CBS-60 Minutes, CNN, National Public Radio—giants from the sports world—corporate, the Congress, former director of the CIA.

Why do we focus on leaders?

Because leaders are decision-makers whose decisions impact the lives of others—indeed, the whole of society. Who is a leader? Each of us is a leader to the degree we accept the responsibilities thrust upon us. Our conviction is that leadership is inherent within each of us—and then expands into the home, and then out into our profession, and out into our world.

3. OUR VISION FOR THE DECADES AHEAD

As we stand at the threshold of the 21st Century, our vision for Journey in Faith is that we can expand outward from our pilot leadership team to embrace America's leadership in these 10 sectors of society: 1. Ministry, 2. Military, 3. Sports, 4. Education, 5. Health, 6. Business, 7. Law, 8. Congress, 9. Journalism, and 10. Entertainment.

"The process" can be gentle, dynamic, indeed irresistible—like dropping a pebble into a pond and witnessing the waves as they go out in concentric rings until they reach all shores.

Our actions are on course. Here is a "status report in brief": 1. We are chartered as a 501(c)(3) non-profit educational-religious institute. 2. Our starting line-up of Members and Associates is confirmed and in place. 3. Our Second Pilgrimage is already planned and scheduled by our Mission Director, Scott Scherer—for January 15-23, Year 2000. 4. We are solvent and debt-free. Our charter members have invested well over a quarter of a million dollars of their own cash and personal resources.

This is a strong, an encouraging beginning. But as we all recognize, nothing worthwhile really comes "for free"—not in our homes, not in our churches, not in our nation. Without laying solid economic foundations for the future, Journey in Faith could be remembered simply as an inspiring pilot effort. Our founding members believe that if the Lord has brought us this far,—and indeed He has, with joy and grace and fellowship,—then surely He can take us all the way.

What does it take to go all the way? We believe that immediate priorities include these three:

First, we must stay sharply focussed on our mission—leadership pilgrimages to the Bible Lands. We've got to resist temptations to get caught up in today's political controversies, either in Washington or overseas. Our focus—100 percent—is on the lessons lived and taught by Jesus Christ 2,000 years ago.

Second, we must continue to give highest priority to further building our leadership team. On this front, we are experiencing strong momentum, expanding from a pilot team of 36 members a year ago to well over 100 today, and with a goal of no less than 300 within a year. We invite each participant in this summit to join our team as an Associate if you are not already enrolled. There is no time, legal, financial, or other commitment beyond which each Associate feels he or she would like to contribute.

Third, we must plan and conduct our Second Pilgrimage on schedule and with excellence—January 15-23, the Year 2,000. And importantly, we must include young men and

women of spiritual faith who will become members of our Future Leaders Program. In parallel, we must define plans for a continuing, expanding series of pilgrimages well into the early years and decades of the 21st century.

Within two years, we can envision Journey in Faith pilgrimages beginning to generate their own income and cover their own expenses, including sponsoring future leaders, without outside financial support. As of today, we can plan two pilgrimages for this next year, the first year of the new century—and then four each year—responding to the needs and opportunities as they surely will present themselves. When we first met Scott Scherer, we learned that he had just conducted some 80 Holy Land tours the previous year, all self-financing. What is a reasonable forecast for Journey in Faith?

Our vision includes forming partnerships with a "family group" of cooperating organizations—such as those five who have joined with us in convening the summit: The International Management and Development Institute, the American Society for Law and Justice, Regents University, the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and the Center for Religion and Diplomacy. All five are superb organizations whose leaders play a strong role in society.

We can anticipate co-sponsorship with Seminary and Divinity Schools—conducting Bible Lands Pilgrimages for their young men and women studying for the ministry who would have no other way to study, on site, the Scriptures as taught by Jesus Christ.

We can envision the rewards of involving young chaplains from the military academies: West Point, Annapolis, the Air Force Academy. How do we measure the value to our soldiers, and airmen stationed worldwide, prepared to defend America's vital interests against hostile attack?

While we cannot predict the potential for Journey in Faith with precision, we feel that the potential is substantial. With Paul, we can say, "For now, we see through a glass, darkly . . ." And we can also remember Paul's declaration, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

We close this assessment by reminding ourselves of the words of Jesus Christ which we quoted in our introduction. These passages stand as an inspiration and a mandate not just for His era but for ours as well: "Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid—freely ye have received, freely give—Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."

THE MEDICAID CHILD ELIGIBILITY IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 1999

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 1999

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation, the Medicaid Child Eligibility Improvement Act of 1999, to help more children obtain the health care they need through Medicaid. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, there are currently 4.4 million children in our nation who are eligible for Medicaid but are not receiving the care they need because they are not enrolled in the program.

In Texas, according to the Texas Department of Health and Human Services Commission, there are currently 800,000 Medicaid-eligible children who are not enrolled in their critical health insurance program. Without this

coverage, children do not receive the preventive health services they need and deserve. Clearly, we need to do more outreach to these children and their families and encourage them to sign up for Medicaid.

This legislation would allow public schools, child care resource and referral centers, Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) workers, homeless eligibility agencies, and child support agencies to make the preliminary decision that a child is eligible to enroll in Medicaid so that they can receive coverage while waiting for full Medicaid eligibility determination. Schools and these other agencies are on the front lines of caring for children and can help to educate their families and enroll them in Medicaid.

Under the Balanced Budget Act enacted in 1997, States received a new option under Medicaid to grant "presumptive eligibility" to certain children on a temporary basis as their Medicaid eligibility is determined. My legislation would expand this presumptive eligibility option to make it more flexible and attractive to the States. The presumptive eligibility period is normally sixty days and gives States sufficient time to complete the Medicaid eligibility determination process. If a state ultimately determines that the child is not eligible for Medicaid, none of these entities would be penalized or lose funding due to a negative determination. Under this legislation, we would be enrolling children on an expedited basis and could reach some of those 4.4 million children who are eligible but not enrolled.

While some would argue that there will be a cost associated with increasing participation in the Medicaid program, it is important to remember that when Congress enacted Medicaid, it assumed that these children would be covered. I would argue that adding these children is not only morally right, but also cost-effective in comparison to letting these children receive health care on an ad hoc basis. Many of these children will simply go to hospital emergency rooms for treatment and will not be able to pay for these services. In the end, we will pay the cost. With Medicaid coverage, our public institutions will be reimbursed and these children will receive better care through primary care providers instead of high-cost, emergency-care based services.

This legislation is also fiscally responsible in that it would require a state to deduct from their state allotment any funding used for this program. I believe that the small cost associated with this outreach effort will not adversely impact States' ability to provide health care for low-income children and in fact could reduce the States' disproportionate share expenditures.

We know that these children are not being properly served now and we must find innovative ways to ensure that all eligible children are enrolled in Medicaid. My legislation would simply accelerate the application process while maintaining sufficient safeguards to prevent fraud and abuse. My legislation would give states greater flexibility to determine which entities can make these determinations, and States are authorized to apply certain limitations in order to prevent fraud and abuse. My legislation would also permit the Secretary of the Health and Human Services to review States' decisions and ensure that the appropriate entities are allowed to enroll these children. None of these entities could immediately offer these services until their state and the

federal government has deemed them to be eligible to undertake preliminary determinations.

I believe this is an important public policy matter which we need to address. My legislation would enroll more children in Medicaid while ensuring that appropriate entities are reviewing these applications. I believe it is more cost-effective to enroll these children and ensure that they are receiving the primary care services they need, rather than sending these children to emergency rooms where children will be sicker and taxpayers will end up paying more. I also believe that we need to improve our current Medicaid presumptive eligibility law by including these new entities which were not included in the Balanced Budget Act. I strongly urge my colleagues to support this critical legislation and would appreciate your support for this effort.

SHANNON MELENDI

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 1999

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I wish to share with my colleagues the tragic circumstances of a constituent, Shannon Melendi, a nineteen-year-old sophomore at Emory University.

Five years ago on March 26th, Shannon disappeared from a park where she worked. No one has seen Shannon since that day.

The prime suspect, a part-time umpire, was previously convicted of kidnaping and sexually abusing a child, but served only two years of his sentence. This was his third sexual offense.

Perhaps if this man had served his full prison sentence, Shannon would not have disappeared. Or, perhaps if he had received a harsher sentence, due to the fact that it was his third sexual offense committed against a child, Shannon would still be here today.

When sexual crimes are committed, we need to ensure that these criminals serve their full sentences so that we can be safe from sexual predators.

Shannon's father summed it up best when he said, "What happened to us cannot be changed, but because of what happened to us, changes can be made."

CELEBRATING THE 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF DAN AND BEV GANZ

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 25, 1999

Mrs. McCarthy of New York. Mr. Speaker, March 27, 1999 marks the 50th anniversary of the wedding of Daniel M. Ganz and Beverlee Kaufman, familiarly known as Dan and Bev Ganz. The two are currently residing in Boca Raton, Florida, but for more than 35 years they were residents of Rockville Centre, New York. In a fashion fitting such an occasion they will be celebrating this anniversary with their two children, family, and close friends.

For many years Beverlee and Danny Ganz lived in Rockville Centre, Long Island, where